REMARKS

In a communication mailed on July 20, 2006, the Examiner issued an Advisory Action in reply to the Amendment sought to be filed on July 5, 2006. However, the Examiner has indicated that the proposed Amendment was not entered because the Amendment would require a new search for art teaching an authentication request by a mobile station.

Responsive to the Advisory Action and in order to continue with the prosecution of the subject application, applicant is contemporaneously filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and a Request an Extension of Time of two (2) months up to and including September 5, 2006 in order to reply to the Final Office Action.

On the basis of the Final Office Action mailed April 4, 2006 and a telephone interview with the Examiner, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the herein Amendments and reconsider the outstanding rejections in light thereof.

More specifically, applicant has amended claims 1 and 15, as discussed with the Examiner during the telephone interview. Claim 7 has been cancelled without prejudice and has been rewritten as new independent claim 21, which also incorporates the revisions made to claim 1. Independent claim 15 has likewise been amended along the same lines.

The Examiner has asserted that the remote access server of Malkin actually represents a proxy as claimed. Further, the Examiner has asserted that the remote access server (RAS) identifies indicia used for authentication of a remote node (cf. passage bridging pages 2 and 3 of the Final Office Action).

Although the basic operation according to Malkin might bear some resemblance to the operation of the present invention as claimed, there are several important

7

differences that clearly distinguish over Malkin and patentably distinguish over that reference.

Pursuant to Malkin, the remote node sends a connection establishment request to the RAS, so the RAS does <u>not</u> receive/detect an authentication request. Thereupon, the RAS initiates an authentication phase by generating an authentication request using the information obtained from TMS 16.

In contrast thereto, according to the present invention, the mobile station sends an authentication request, thus initiating an authentication phase on its own. The proxy, i.e. the identifier, processes the authentication request and generates a signaling protocol message ("a request message representative of the authentication request", cf. original claim 7 and now new claim 21).

Accordingly, the type of messages and thus the type of processing at any section of the link between the mobile station and the authenticator is obviously different in Malkin as compared to the present invention.

It is also pointed out that on page 3, lines 21 to 22 of the specification, it is stated that authentication data are exchanged between the mobile station and the core network. In contrast thereto, Malkin teaches to exchange authentication data between the RAS and the core/home network.

The Examiner has indicated that the claims as amended herein could be favorably considered. Reconsideration of the Final Rejections and withdrawal of these rejections, in light of the Request for Continued Examination, is, accordingly, respectfully requested.
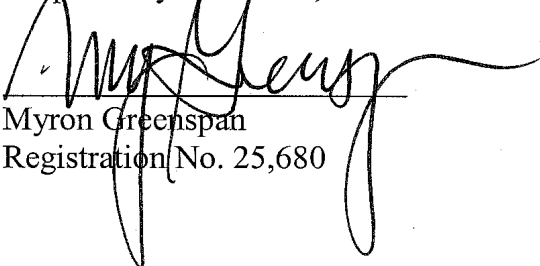
This application is now believed to be conditioned for allowance. Early allowance and issuance is, accordingly, respectfully solicited.

> *Applicant hereby petitions that any and all extensions of time of the term necessary to render this response timely be granted.* COSTS FOR SUCH EXTENSION(S) AND/OR ANY OTHER FEE DUE WITH THIS PAPER MAY BE CHARGED TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT #10-0100.

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Respectfully submitted,

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